



# HOLDING FAST TO THE TREASURE

NOVEMBER 3 - 4, 2017 ✨ 107TH ANNUAL  
CENTRAL DISTRICT CONVENTION & LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

*Triumphus: Victory through Weakness* ▫ *Fortitudo: Courage in Hardships* ▫ *Renovare: Renewal by Faith*

*"But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us."*  
2 Corinthians 4:7



Pastor Luke & Joanne Haidle

## QUICK BIO

- From Mitchell, SD
- Graduated from Tabor College with degrees in Chemistry & Bible
- Attended seminary in Langley, British Columbia
- Spent 3 summers working as a backpacking guide
- Worked 10 years in short term missions in Canada through MB Missions
- 1<sup>st</sup> date with wife, Joanne, was in college; 2<sup>nd</sup> date was 7 years later
- Blessed with 3 children: Kate (7), Micah (6) and Levi (2)
- 4/5 family members have dual citizenship in Canada

## GREETINGS CHURCHES OF THE CENTRAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE!!

We are so excited to have the privilege of hosting you this year, at the 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention! We have a great team that has been hard at work in preparation for your arrival. Our prayer and ambition is that this time encourages you, motivates you, informs you, inspires you, and connects you with other MB leaders.

There have been some very excited conversations that have happened around the planning of this event. Historically, the convention was a time for pastors, spouses, and maybe a few board chairs, to come together, do some business, hear a good speaker, and enjoy some great fellowship. But an idea kept coming forward of "how do we equip and encourage several church leaders, and not just their pastors?" From that place of passion, have come some new ideas, which we are very excited to try out this year!!

**For starters, cost!** If we want to be able to equip and encourage more people, we have to make it financially feasible for a church to send more people. To that end, we have adjusted the price to accommodate churches bringing larger groups. Registration for the first 3 people will be \$85. This helps cover our basic costs. But anyone beyond that is ONLY \$30 per person!!!! You could bring 8 people representing your church for only \$405(+ *travel and lodging*).

**Second, is name.** Rather than calling this the Central District Convention, this year we are calling it the "Central District Convention and Leadership Summit." This (experimental) change in name serves a bold statement about what we want to happen during our time together.

**Third, the selection of workshops & round table discussions.** Workshops are speaker specialized, and most of the time the audience learns something from the speaker/presenter, with a short time for Q&A at the end. These are always valuable, and several workshops will be available.



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But a Round Table Discussion is more participation orientated. A table leader will share 10-15 minutes of material on a certain topic, and the rest of the time participants exchange their learnings and insight around the given topic. So, we may have a workshop on clergy tax (where you will learn from a presenter) but have a round table discussion on kid's ministry (where the participants exchange ideas and lessons learned)

**Fourth, is schedule.** (*This one is still pending*) We are striving to provide a second track for those who are coming as \*non-delegates. Every year, we need to conduct business, and so we have business meetings. And while I personally find these inspirational and informative, we recognize that not all non-delegates will want to attend all three business meetings. So, we are working on a second track of events and training. We envision this as a blend of intentional recreation and round table discussions. We want to create space where church leaders can build friendships and exchange ideas. Round Table discussions are a great place for an immediate exchange of ideas, but friendship can be a great place for a long-term exchange of ideas.

I trust you plan on joining this year, and I do hope that you consider bringing a half dozen of your best leaders to this event.

God Bless, and I'll see you in November!

Pastor Luke Haidle

*\*Every church sends a certain number of delegates to the convention who represent the church and have voting responsibilities. Non-delegates do not have the same responsibilities.*